COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Species at Risk Committee members are appointed by the four wildlife co-management boards established under settled land claim and self-government agreements, the federal government and the Government of the Northwest Territories, represented by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR). In areas without settled land claims, members are appointed by the Minister of ENR after consultation with the appropriate groups. Appointments are for up to five years.

Committee members must have significant expertise of species, habitat, northern ecosystems or conservation. Members act independently and not as representatives of their appointing bodies.

Peary Caribou - Photo Credit: John Nagy/ENR

Wood Bison - Photo Credit: ENR

Photo Credit: Environment Canada

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AS OF MARCH 31, 2011

- **Chairperson:** Mr. James Firth – member appointed by the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
- **Alternate Chairperson:** Mr. Robert Gau – member appointed by the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)
- Mr. Larry Carpenter – alternate appointed by the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)
- Mr. Eugene Pascal – alternate appointed by the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
- Mr. Chris Heron – member appointed by the Minister of ENR on the advice of the Northwest Territory Métis Nation
- Mr. Arthur Beck – alternate appointed by the Minister of ENR on the advice of the Northwest Territory Métis Nation
- Dr. Paul Latour – member appointed by the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board
- Mr. Walter Bayha – alternate appointed by the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board
- Mr. Moise Rabesca – member appointed by the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board
- Ms. Karin Clark – alternate appointed by the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board
- Mr. Jason Horesay – member appointed by the Minister of ENR on the advice of the Dehcho First Nations
- Ms. Misty Ireland – alternate appointed by the Minister of ENR on the advice of the Dehcho First Nations
- Ms. Donna Mulders – member appointed by Environment Canada
- Ms. Jennie Rausch – alternate appointed by Environment Canada
- Dr. Suzanne Carrière – member appointed by the Minister of ENR
- Mr. Mike Gravel – member appointed by the Minister of ENR
- Dr. Nicholas (Nic) Larter – alternate appointed by the Minister of ENR

An additional member and alternate, to be nominated by the Akaitcho Territory Government, will be appointed to the Committee at a later date.

CONTACT

For more information about the Species at Risk Committee and its activities, please visit our website: www.nwtspeciesatrisk.ca

or contact:

Species at Risk Secretariat
SC6, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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Tel: (867) 920-6362
Fax: (867) 873-0293
E-mail: sara@gov.nt.ca

Respectfully submitted,

James Firth, Chairperson
Species at Risk Committee

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
SPECIES AT RISK
COMMITTEE

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
SPECIES AT RISK
COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

Cover Photo Credits: Peregrine Falcon - Gordon Court

ANNUAL REPORT

Under section 23(1) of the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*, the Species at Risk Committee must submit an annual report to the Conference of Management Authorities by July 1 each year. This annual report covers the fiscal year ending March 31, 2011.

THE *SPECIES AT RISK (NWT) ACT*

The *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* (the Act) provides a process to identify, protect and recover species at risk in the Northwest Territories (NWT). The Act applies to any wild animal, plant or other species managed by the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT). It applies everywhere in the NWT, on both public and private lands, including private lands owned under a land claims agreement.

Polar Bear - Photo Credit: Sandra Eert

COMMITTEE PROGRESS APRIL 1, 2010 TO MARCH 31, 2011

The Species at Risk Committee held four meetings and finalized the following documents:

- Species at Risk Committee Rules of Conduct;
- Checklist to Prioritize Species for Assessment;
- Species Assessment Process and Objective Biological Criteria; and
- Guidelines for Species Status Reports.

The Committee used its priority checklist to identify 19 species for assessment under section 25(2)(a) of the Act. An assessment schedule for 2012-2016 detailing species to be assessed over the next five years has been developed. The five-year assessment schedule has been approved by the Conference of Management Authorities. The assessment schedule will be revised annually.

The Species at Risk Committee has started work on species status reports for Peary caribou, hairy rockcress, polar bear and boreal woodland caribou. No species have been assessed to date. The Committee did not receive any referrals or applications for species to be assessed under sections 26(1) or 27 of the Act during the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

All Species at Risk Committee documents are available on the new NWT Species at Risk website: **www.nwtspeciesatrisk.ca**.

APPROVED ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE FOR 2012-2016

TO BE ASSESSED	SPECIES NAME
October 2012	Peary Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus pearyi*)
	Hairy Rockcress (a plant) (*Braya pilosa*)
	Polar Bear (*Ursus maritimus*)
	Woodland Caribou (Boreal population) (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*)
October 2013	Barren-ground Caribou (except Dolphin-Union population) (*Rangifer tarandus groenlandicus*)
	Barren-ground Caribou (Dolphin-Union population) (*Rangifer tarandus groenlandicus x pearyi* (*R. t. pearyi x groenlandicus*))
	Northern Leopard Frog (*Lithobates pipiens* (*Rana pipiens*))
October 2014	Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*)
	Nahanni Aster (a plant) (*Symphyotrichum nahanniense* (*Aster nahanniensis*))
	Western Toad (*Anaxyrus boreas* (*Bufo boreas*))
	Wood Bison (*Bison bison athabascae*)
October 2015	Drummond Bluebell (a plant) (*Mertensia drummondii*)
	Raup's Willow (a plant) (*Salix raupii*)
	Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos*)
	Mountain Goat (*Oreamnos americanus*)
October 2016	Peregrine Falcon anatum-tundrius complex (*Falco peregrinus*)
	Canadian Toad (*Anaxyrus hemiophrys* (*Bufo hemiophrys*))
	Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*)
	Red-sided Garter Snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*)

THE SPECIES AT RISK COMMITTEE

The Species at Risk Committee (the Committee) was established under the Act. It is an independent committee of experts responsible for assessing the biological status of species at risk in the NWT.

Species status assessments will be done at the territorial level and results may be different from assessments done at the national level. Assessments will be based on species status reports that include the best available Aboriginal traditional knowledge, community knowledge and scientific knowledge of the species. The Committee must use objective biological criteria in its assessments and does not consider socio-economic factors.

The Committee will use the assessments to make recommendations on the listing of species at risk. The assessment categories for the legal list of species at risk are Extinct, Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern. Species can also be assessed as Not at Risk or Data Deficient. The Committee will identify threats and positive influences to species and their habitats, and may make recommendations on conservation measures for species at risk.

The Committee makes its recommendations to the Conference of Management Authorities, a group of boards and governments that share responsibility for the conservation and recovery of species at risk in the NWT. The Conference of Management Authorities includes wildlife co-management boards established under land claim and self-government agreements, the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Tłı̨chǫ Government and the Government of Canada.